



Washington State Department of Early Learning

Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) Meeting
December 1, 2015 – Capital Event Center

Regional Coalition Updates

Regional Coalition Update

Project Child Success, Pierce County

For more information please contact: Susan Barbeau, Executive Director

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- On November 16th, Project Child Success in partnership with the Department of Early Learning, hosted a community meeting to get local input on the Standards Alignment Project. 45 people attended the event including family child care providers, center directors, Montessori schools, community colleges, libraries, museums, and other community partners. The meeting was well received and participants provided meaningful feedback.
- On December 8th, Project Child Success is hosting the annual Pierce County WaKIDS convening titled “Working Together for Children’s Success”. This is an opportunity for all 15 school districts in Pierce County and early learning providers to gather, learn, reflect and discover together. This year’s topic is social emotional development. Attendees will learn about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and strategies to build resiliency in families and communities.

Inland Northwest Early Learning Alliance, Northeast

No updates to share at this time.

Investing in Children: Coalition Central

No updates to share at this time.

North Central

For more information please contact: Nancy Spurgeon, nspurgeon@wvc.edu

- NCELC final 2015 meeting of the year was October 27th over 20 individuals participated and there was representation from all for counties in the region. The meeting was from 9:30 – 3:00 and everyone was involved in giving input toward the 2016 Community Momentum grant.
- Held Standards Alignment Community meeting on Nov. 17th. It was scheduled for 9:00am-11:30am, but most of us stayed until 12:30 to get through all the materials and provide feedback that reflects the concerns, needs and priorities of our communities and region. We had a group of 20. Attendees came from across the region-from Child care centers, family child cares, ECEAP/Head Start, Higher Ed, Community College, Child Care Aware, Montessori preschool and a parent.
- Working with Custom Evaluations to improve the sophistication of members to retrieve, analyze, and visualize our own data. Collaborative has selected the open source Weave product as our mechanism to store and access data. WEAVE software-Piper will train members again in 2016. Indicator/Framework; finding space for data, establishing informal and formal processes for data collection and sharing. Will update MOU-data structure and sharing. NCESD has agreed to let us use server/space. Need to establish how much data/space we will need to house on server.

Regional Coalition Update

- “Raising of America” campaign in North Central region: There were 4 Raising of America events held in Leavenworth, Wenatchee, Chelan and Moses Lake. They were a tremendous success thanks to our sponsors, volunteers and attendees. The facilitated discussion asked attendees to divide into three groups, reflect on their own reactions to the film and then identify strategies to take action in their local communities. . Synopses of each event are available, priorities and goals for each community were identified and follow up with attendees was provided.
- NCELC updating website, linking to United Way and other member agency websites/facebook pages. Supporting Wenatchee World upcoming mom blog and more to become the “go to” for information in the local communities throughout north central region.
- Engaging in opportunities to connect with parents/caregivers; provided Love.Talk.Play materials at birthday parties, North Central Regional Library Baby Literacy Fair, Chelan School District early learning parent engagement/needs assessment. Currently seeking funding to enhance current systems; establish Play and Learn Spanish speaking group, Spanish Speaking Outreach-Parent to Parent, Children with Special Health Care Needs coordination of care feasibility study for North Central.
- Co-hosted Embracing Early Childhood Conference – October 16th and 17th. Conference held at Wenatchee Valley College. Tracks for Early Learning Providers/Educators, Home Visitors and Parents.

Northwest

No updates to share at this time.

Olympic-Kitsap Peninsulas

For more information please contact: Rhodes Lockwood, rlockwood@olympic.edu or Marlaina Simmons, masimmons@oesd.wednet.edu

- A considerable amount of time was spent on planning and recruiting participants for two Community Engagement meetings to provide input on the Standards Alignment project. Unfortunately the November 17th storm closed the Hood Canal Bridge and forced the cancellation of the meeting scheduled for Port Angeles. The following day 18 participants, 5 facilitators, and 1 DEL representative met for a productive meeting.
- OKPELC was awarded a multi-year Satterberg Grant to build local and regional capacity to improve kindergarten readiness using community-based approaches and promoting racial, ethnic, and economic equity.

SOAR, King County

For more information please contact: Harla Tumbleson, harla@childrenandyouth.org

- SOAR is in the process of hiring a new Director whom we hope will be on board early 2016.
- The SOAR 2015 Summit took place on October 9th. The theme – “Equity in Communities: YOUR Power to Influence.” 175 people attended this free event and reviews were overwhelmingly positive.
- SOAR is in the process of organizing and conducting community engagement meetings on the Standards Alignment Project. Two meetings have been held to date and three more are scheduled with one to be conducted in Somali.

Southeast

No updates to share at this time.

Regional Coalition Update

Southwest Washington Early Learning (SWEL)

For more information please contact: Lindsay Newcomer, lindsay.newcomer@selfwa.org

- SWEL had its second Home Visitor's conference on November 13th. The conference was attended by 45-50 home visitors who received a take home of books and a math activity. The training provided was around home visitor safety, engaging families, and working with families facing mental health issues.
- SWEL completed 2 standards alignment meetings on November 19th. Both meetings were well attended and included a diverse group of providers and some community partners. The conversations were rich and provided ample feedback regarding strategies to align the current standards.

Visions for Early Learning, West Central

No updates to share at this time.